

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/910,471

Examiner

Igor Borissov

Applicant(s)

WILKINS ET AL.

Art Unit

3639

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 2/21/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-15 and 18-31.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

Response to Amendment

Amendment received on 2/21/2006 is acknowledged and entered. Claims 16, 17 and 33-84 have been canceled. Claims 1 and 30 have been amended. Claims 1-15 and 18-32 are currently pending in the application.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC § 103 have been withdrawn due to the applicant's amendment.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a personal interview with an applicant's representative Ron Jacobs (Reg. No. 50,142) on Thursday, May 4, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

SPECIFICATION

Amend the paragraph starting on Page 2, lines 11-17, as follows:

"Further elaborating on this example, typically, a prospect must have the ability, willingness, and readiness to buy before a direct sale can be consummated. One method is to identify individuals with certain titles (e.g. CEO, VP Marketing) that are likely to correlate with purchasing authority. Vendors, such as Dun & Bradstreet, Murray 011, NJ (www.dnb.com) and InfoUSA, Omaha, NE (www.infousa.com), gather business

Art Unit: 3639

data through a variety of means. For example, the sources for InfoBase Business List (Acxiom Corporation, Little Rock, AR. www.acxiom.com) include:"

Amend the paragraph starting on Page 9, lines 1-4, as follows:

"For example, on July 10, 2000, the website for Lowell General Hospital, Lowell, MA, listed members of senior management, on <http://www.lowellgeneral.org/HTML/Mgmt.html>: In the following example below, each manager's name was hyperlinked (indicated by an underline) to a detailed biography."

Amend the sentence starting on Page 12, lines 1-3, as follows:

"For example, Infonautics eLibrary (www.infonautics.com) provides access to more than 7.5 million articles from more than 150 full-text newspapers, hundreds of magazines, two international newswires, and more."

Amend the paragraph starting on Page 12, lines 8-12, as follows:

"Press Release Wire Services. Press releases can also be found at wire service website companies such as BusinessWire (www.bizwire.com), PIGewswire (www.prgewswire.com), or financial portals like Yahoo! Finance (for example, ~~Businesswire press releases can be found at <http://biz.yahoo.com/bw>~~). On July 10th, 2000, hyperlinks to the full text of numerous releases were listed, including those shown in the following example."

Amend the paragraph starting on Page 13, lines 1-7, as follows:

"Professional/Trade Associations. Senior executives may be listed on trade/professional association websites. For example, as of July 10, 2000, the corporate website for the Auburn Regional Medical Center, Auburn, WA (www.armcuhs.com) did not list any

Art Unit: 3639

senior hospital administrators. But the names and titles of several executives were listed on the website of the Washington State Hospital Association (www.wsha.org/hospital/2000dir.htm). An extract of the listing for ARMC is shown below and lists the CEO, COO and business development administrator for the medical center."

Amend the sentence starting on Page 14, lines 4-7, as follows:

"In FIG. 1, Search Engine and/or Spider 130 refers to both i) a specially-developed spider to access information behind a CGI script, accessible only by entering a search string into a text bar or clicking a search button and ii) a publicly-accessible search engine such as Google (~~www.google.com~~) or Altavista (~~www.altavista.com~~) which indexes a substantial portion of the web that is accessible through hyperlinks."

Amend the sentence starting on Page 18, lines 1-3, as follows:

"If the contact information has been successfully parsed, the URL for the page with the highest score (e.g. ~~http://www.lowellgeneral.org/HTML/Mgmt.html~~: in the example provided above for the website for Lowell General Hospital, Lowell, MA) may be added to the manager(s) record in contact database."

Amend the sentence starting on Page 24, lines 10-11, as follows:

"For hyperlink accessible data, a general purpose search engine such as Google (~~www.google.com~~) may be used."

IN THE CLAIMS

1. *(Currently amended)* A computer-implemented method of compiling identity and contact information of senior managers in a distributed computer system, comprising the steps of:
 - a) compiling in a distributed computer system multiple, unrelated, ~~unstructured or~~ structurally different information sources other than structured databases, wherein each information source is characterized as coded in a markup language file and wherein each of said markup language files contains a unique set of information compared to the other compiled markup language files;
 - b) identifying and obtaining from said compiled markup language files senior management information; wherein
said senior management information includes ~~one or more~~ at least one senior management title[[s]], names respectively associated to said title[[s]], and contact information respectively associated to said names, and wherein
said contact information is selected from the group consisting of email addresses, phone numbers, fax numbers, postal addresses, and a combination thereof;
 - c) parsing through each of said markup language files to extract said senior management titles; and
performing the following computer-implemented steps for each title extracted:
 - d) determining in said markup language file a local content grouping near and associated with a particular title;
 - e) identifying and extracting from said markup language file a name associated with said title from only said local content grouping;

Art Unit: 3639

- f) evaluating from said markup language file a current and historic relationship between said name and said title; and
- g) selecting the most current said title and said associated name based on said evaluated current and historic relationship[[]];
- h) displaying said selected the most current said title and said associated name to a user.

29. *(Currently amended)* ~~A computer system for implementing the method of Claim 1, said computer system is programmed to perform the step of Claim 1. of~~
compiling identity and contact information of senior managers in a distributed computer system, comprising:

a processor, wherein said processor is programmed to: A computer system for
~~implementing the method of claim 1, said computer system is programmed to~~
~~perform the steps of claim 1.~~

- a) compiling in said distributed computer system multiple, unrelated,
structurally different information sources other than structured
databases, wherein each information source is characterized as
coded in a markup language file and wherein each of said markup
language files contains a unique set of information compared to the
other compiled markup language files;
- b) identifying and obtaining from said compiled markup language files
senior management information; wherein
said senior management information includes at least one senior
management title, names respectively associated to said title, and
contact information respectively associated to said names, and
wherein

said contact information is selected from the group consisting of email addresses, phone numbers, fax numbers, postal addresses, and a combination thereof;

- c) parsing through each of said markup language files to extract said senior management titles; and
performing the following computer-implemented steps for each title extracted:
- d) determining in said markup language file a local content grouping near and associated with a particular title;
- e) identifying and extracting from said markup language file a name associated with said title from only said local content grouping;
- f) evaluating from said markup language file a current and historic relationship between said name and said title; and
- g) selecting the most current said title and said associated name based on said evaluated current and historic relationship;
- h) displaying said selected the most current said title and said associated name to a user.

30. *(Currently amended)* A system of compiling identity and contact information of senior managers, comprising:

a compiling means to compile multiple, unrelated, ~~unstructured or~~ structurally different information sources other than structured databases, wherein each information source is characterized as coded in a markup language file and wherein each of said markup language files contains a unique representation of information relative to the other markup language files;

an identifying means for identifying and obtaining from said compiled markup language files senior management information;

an integrity evaluation means for determining whether said markup language files are available and contain senior management information; wherein

Art Unit: 3639

said senior management information includes ~~one or more~~ at least one senior management title[[s]], names respectively associated to said title[[s]], and contact information respectively associated to said names, and wherein

said contact information is selected from the group consisting of email addresses, phone numbers, fax numbers, postal addresses, and a combination thereof;

a parsing means for extracting from said markup language files said senior management titles and names associated therewith;

a evaluation means for determining from said markup language files a current and historic relationship of said titles and said names associated therewith, respectively; and

a selection means for selecting the most current said title and said associated name based on said determined current and historic relationship[.];

a displaying means for displaying said selected the most current said title and said associated name to a user.

31. *(Currently Amended)* A computer-readable medium carrying computer-executable instructions, which when executed by a computer, causing said computer to implement[[ing]] the method steps of: of claim 1.

- a) compiling in a distributed computer system multiple, unrelated, structurally different information sources other than structured databases, wherein each information source is characterized as coded in a markup language file and wherein each of said markup language files contains a unique set of information compared to the other compiled markup language files;
- b) identifying and obtaining from said compiled markup language files senior management information; wherein

said senior management information includes at least one senior management title, names respectively associated to said title and contact information respectively associated to said names, and wherein

said contact information is selected from the group consisting of email addresses, phone numbers, fax numbers, postal addresses, and a combination thereof;

- c) parsing through each of said markup language files to extract said senior management titles; and
performing the following computer-implemented steps for each title extracted:
- d) determining in said markup language file a local content grouping near and associated with a particular title;
- e) identifying and extracting from said markup language file a name associated with said title from only said local content grouping;
- f) evaluating from said markup language file a current and historic relationship between said name and said title; and
- g) selecting the most current said title and said associated name based on said evaluated current and historic relationship;
- h) displaying said selected the most current said title and said associated name to a user.

Claims 32-84. (*Cancelled*).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-15 and 18-32 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

As per independent Claim 1, the best prior art Baker et al. (US 6,338,067) in view of Wical (US 6,061,675) and further in view of Maxey (US 5,590,320) teach a method for searching a database, and a computer-readable medium having instructions for execution by a computer said method, said method, comprising:

searching said database over the Internet to identify and obtain files including information related to a company management record, management title record, management background, contact names, including addresses, telephone and fax numbers, web site and email addresses;

wherein various types of information are relationally linked across the Internet, and accessible to a user over the net by querying key terms (individual data items); and

wherein said querying key terms includes parsing technique and determining a context;

said searching of said database further includes evaluating of terms (verbs) and selection of appropriate terms based on a verb tense;

and further wherein each file is time stamped when it is modified, and wherein during searching routine for the particular file it is ensured that only the latest version of each file is obtained.

However, Baker et al. in view of Wical and further in view of Maxey does not teach that said "evaluating of terms (verbs) and selection of appropriate terms based on a verb tense" includes:

Art Unit: 3639

evaluating a current and historic relationship between said name and said title;
and selecting most current said title and said associated name based on said
evaluated current and historic relationship.

As per independent Claim 30, the best prior art Baker et al. (US 6,338,067) in
view of Wical (US 6,061,675) and further in view of Maxey (US 5,590,320) and further in
view of Johnson et al. (US 6,553,385) teach a system for searching a database,
comprising:

means for searching said database over the Internet to identify and obtain files
including information related to a company management record, management title
record, management background, contact names, including addresses, telephone and
fax numbers, web site and email addresses, wherein various types of information are
relationally linked across the Internet,

means for querying key terms (individual data items) various types of information
which are relationally linked across the Internet

means for integrity evaluation and for determining whether said obtained
information is valid;

wherein said querying key terms includes parsing technique and determining a
context;

said searching of said database further includes evaluating of terms (verbs) and
selection of appropriate terms based on a verb tense;

and further wherein each file is time stamped when it is modified, and wherein
during searching routine for the particular file it is ensured that only the latest version of
each file is obtained.

However, Baker et al. in view of Wical and further in view of Maxey and further in
view of Johnson et al. does not teach that said "evaluating of terms (verbs) and
selection of appropriate terms based on a verb tense" includes:

evaluating a current and historic relationship between said name and said title;
and selecting most current said title and said associated name based on said

evaluated current and historic relationship.

The best foreign art, KIRCHMAN (WO 99/50759) appears to disclose a method and apparatus for automatically defining ideas and concepts, comprising: parsing sentences using a grammar into their component parts; wherein each word is compared to the contents of a dictionary database and a set of tense-mood tables to identify individual words as concepts, entities, actions or qualifiers, and wherein the data structures for different sentences can be compared to determine matching or similarity, thereby expressing reasoning technique.

However, Kirchman fails to teach evaluating a current and historic relationship between uncovered names and titles of senior managers; and selecting most current said title and said associated name based on said evaluated current and historic relationship.

The best NPL prior art, Chen Si-Qing et al. (Grammar-debugger: a parser for Chinese EFL learners) appears to teach a parsing technique wherein the error detection and toleration capability is achieved by a modification of the grammar rules (Abstract).

However, Chen Si-Qing et al. fails to teach evaluating a current and historic relationship between uncovered names and titles of senior managers; and selecting most current said title and said associated name based on said evaluated current and historic relationship.

The remaining dependent claims are considered allowable, as they are dependent and based off of an allowable independent claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submission should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reason for Allowance".


Art Unit: 3639

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Igor Borissov whose telephone number is 571-272-6801. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John W. Hayes can be reached on 571-272-6708. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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5/05/2006



IGOR N. BORISSOV
PRIMARY EXAMINER